

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 05564 071627Z

43

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 DHA-02 USIE-00 CIAE-00

CU-02 INR-07 IO-13 NSAE-00 PRS-01 SSO-00 AF-08 ARA-06

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O R 071550Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9120

INFO EC COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE 101

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

US MISSION USUN 1260

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 5564

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNESCO, OCON, EEC

SUBJ: UNESCO MASS MEDIA DECLARATION

REF: (A) THE HAGUE 5557, (B) STATE 229731

1. DUTCH SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF US/FRG DRAFT DECLARATION ON MASS MEDIA ARE BEING CABLED TO EC-9 CAPITALS THIS AFTERNOON IN PREPARATION FOR OCT 8 MEETING OF PERM REPS IN PARIS. SUGGESTIONS RESULT FROM OCT 6 MEETING OF UNESCO EXPERTS AND REPRESENT GENERAL CONSENSUS OF NINE. VAN VLOTEN, WHO SAID HE WANTED USG TO BE FULLY AWARE OF EC-9 THOUGHTS BEFORE MONDAY IG MEETING, TOLD EMBOFF THAT FRENCH AND UK EXPERTS SUPPORT FOLLOWING POINTS 100 PERCENT.

2. BEGIN QUOTE:

A. IT IS APPROPRIATE TO REFER IN THE PREAMBLE TO THE ROLE OF MASS MEDIA IN STRENGTHENING FRIENDLY RELATIONS AMONG PEOPLES AND NATIONS. THE TEXT MIGHT BE ON THE LINE OF THE FOURTH PREAMBULARY PARAGRAPH OF THE DRAFT DECLARATION ON FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ADOPTED BY ECOSOC 21 APRIL 1960 (RESOLUTION 756

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PAGE 02 THE HA 05564 071627Z

XXIX).

B. EITHER THE PREAMBLE OR THE OPERATIVE PART WOULD SEEM THE POINT TO MENTION THE NOTION OF A BASIC PRINCIPLE OF DIVERSITY OF SOURCES OF INFORMATION, AS CONTAINED IN ARTICLE III OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION ON FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ADOPTED BY ECOSOC.

C. IN REVIEWING THE OPERATIVE PART TO ENSURE THAT THE INDICATION OF ADDRESSEES WOULD BE MORE BALANCED, IT WOULD, FOR EXAMPLE, BE MORE CORRECT TO ADDRESS IN ARTICLE II PRIMARILY THE MASS MEDIA INSTEAD OF STATES. ANOTHER EXAMPLE IS THE APPROPRIATENESS TO ADDRESS INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AS WELL AS STATES IN ARTICLE III. IN THIS CONNECTION, UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY DOCUMENT A/31/193 SUBMITTED BY A NUMBER OF SOUTHEAST ASIATIC STATES ON "COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE IN THE APPLICATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATIONS FOR SOCIAL PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT" SEEMS ALSO RELEVANT.

D. IN ARTICLE VIII THE DOCTRINE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION IS INTERTWINED WITH PRINCIPLE OF RESPECT FOR HETEROGENEITY OR DISSIMILARITY. IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO KEEP DOCTRINE AND PRINCIPLE, TO IMPORTANT BUT DIFFERENT NOTIONS, SEPARATED OR AT LEAST WELL DISTINGUISHED. END QUOTE
MCCLOSKEY

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